

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring a concentration of a material in a solution, the method comprising the steps of:
 - i measuring an optical rotation of a solution sample;
 - ii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with the material and is thereby sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
 - iii measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent to ascertain the difference that said treatment has made; and
 - iv calculating the concentration of the material by reference of said difference to a suitable standard.
2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of the material is measured in a sugar solution.
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the material is optically active.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the material is dextran or raffinose.
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the material is dextran and the reactive agent is dextranase.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of treating the sample with a second reactive agent.
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive

agent is provided ~~in a context of~~ on a solid support.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the samples is purified with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns prior to a polarimetric analysis.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, wherein the reactive agent is dextranase or α -galactosidase ~~in the context of~~ on a solid support.

10. (Previously Presented) A kit for the assay of the concentration of a material in solution according to claim 1, the kit comprising at least an agent reactive with the optically active material and software for use with a polarimeter to automate the change in optical rotation to a standard with concentration of the material of interest.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for a polarimetric analysis of a solution sample at near IR wavelengths, the method comprising the steps of:

- i treating the solution sample with diatomaceous earth having a median particle size of less than 19.3 microns;
- ii measuring an optical rotation of the solution sample;
- iii treating the solution sample with a reactive agent that is reactive with ~~the a~~ material and, thereby, is sufficient to alter the optical rotation of the sample;
- iv measuring the optical rotation of the sample after the treatment with the reactive agent; and
- v calculating the concentration of the material by reference to a suitable standard.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the diatomaceous earth is ~~Filter Cel E grade Celite~~ a fine grading of diatomaceous earth or a functional equivalent.

13. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 10, wherein the material is optically active and wherein the agent reactive with the material is dextranase or α -galactosidase.

14. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 13, wherein the material is dextran and the agent reactive with the material is dextranase.